UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS EASTERN DIVISION

In re:)	Chapter 7	
)	Hon. A. Benjamin Goldgar	
James Pielet,)	Case No. 06-01026	
	Debtor.)		
)	Hearing Date:	March 10, 2010
)	Hearing Time:	10:00 a.m.

NOTICE OF MOTION

TO: See Attached Service List

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on March 10, 2010 at 10:00 a.m. or as soon thereafter as counsel may be heard, I shall appear before the Honorable A. Benjamin Goldgar, Bankruptcy Judge, in the room usually occupied by him as a Courtroom in the U.S. Courthouse, 219 South Dearborn Street, Chicago, Illinois, Room 613, or in his absence, before such other Judge who may be sitting in his place and stead and hearing bankruptcy motions, and shall then and there present the Third and Final Application of Shaw Gussis Fishman Glantz Wolfson & Towbin LLC as Special Counsel to the Trustee for Allowance and Payment of Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses, a copy of which is attached and herewith served upon you, and shall pray for the entry of an order in conformity with the prayer of said pleading.

AT WHICH TIME AND PLACE you may appear if you so see fit.

Ira Bodenstein (#3126857) Marylynne Schwartz (#6297576) Shaw Gussis Fishman Glantz Wolfson & Towbin LLC 321 North Clark Street, Suite 800 Chicago, Illinois 60654 (312) 541-0151

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Ira Bodenstein certifies that he caused to be served a true copy of the above and foregoing notice and attached pleadings upon the attached Service list in the manner so indicated on this 8th day of February 2010.

/s/ Ira Bodenstein

Electronic Mail Notice List

The following is the list of **parties** who are currently on the list to receive e-mail notices for this case.

- Ira Bodenstein ibodenstein@shawgussis.com
- Rosanne Ciambrone rciambrone@duanemorris.com
- Eugene J Geekie egeekie@schiffhardin.com
- Ilene F Goldstein ifgolds@aol.com, IL35@ecfcbis.com
- Gordon E. Gouveia ggouveia@shawgussis.com
- Christopher J Grant cgrant@atg.state.il.us
- Elizabeth A Kalisz ekalisz@jenner.com
- Jennifer A Lukas-Jackson jennifer.lukas-jackson@usdoj.gov
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- Zhiyuan Xu mxu@schiffhardin.com
- Peter J Young pyoung@winston.com

Manual Notice List

The following is the list of **parties** who are **not** on the list to receive e-mail notices for this case, who, therefore, have been served via prepaid, first-class U.S. Mail:

Lois West Popowcer Katten, Ltd. 35 E. Wacker Dr., Ste. 1550 Chicago, IL 60601

Shaw Gussis Fishman Glantz Wolfson & Tow 321 N. Clark St., Ste. 800 Chicago, IL 60654

Harry J Ross 6100 Glades Rd., Ste. 211 Boca Raton, FL 33434 Case 06-01026 Doc 179 Filed 02/08/10 Entered 02/08/10 16:50:36 Desc Main Document Page 3 of 11

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THIRD AND FINAL APPLICATION OF SHAW GUSSIS FISHMAN GLANTZ WOLFSON & TOWBIN LLC AS SPECIAL COUNSEL TO THE TRUSTEE FOR ALLOWANCE AND PAYMENT OF COMPENSATION AND REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES

Ira Bodenstein and the law firm of Shaw Gussis Fishman Glantz Wolfson & Towbin LLC ("Shaw Gussis") apply to this Court pursuant to 11 U.S.C. §§ 330 and 331, Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 2002, and Local Bankruptcy Rule 5082-1, for the entry of an order (i) allowing \$25,264.00 in compensation for approximately 63 hours of services (the "Services") rendered as special counsel to Ilene F. Goldstein, the chapter 7 trustee (the "Trustee") for the bankruptcy estate (the "Estate") of James Pielet (the "Debtor") and \$511.57 for reimbursement of actual costs incurred by Shaw Gussis incidental to such Services, for the period beginning June 1, 2007 through and including January 15, 2010 (the "Application Period"); (ii) reaffirming the Court's previous orders authorizing the interim allowance and payment of fees and expenses to Shaw Gussis; and (iii) authorizing and directing payment of Shaw Gussis' allowed fees and expenses by the Trustee (the "Final Application"). In support of this Final Application, Shaw Gussis states as follows:

BACKGROUND AND JURISDICTION

1. On June 15, 2004, the Debtor filed a voluntary petition for relief under chapter 7 of the Bankruptcy Code in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Florida, thereby commencing Case No. 04-32902 (the "Florida Case").

- 2. On or about February 2, 2006, the Honorable Steven H. Friedman entered an order (the "Transfer Order") directing that the Florida Case, the related chapter 7 case of J.P. Investments, Inc., and certain related adversary proceedings be transferred to the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Illinois, Eastern Division (the "Northern District").
- 3. On or about February 7, 2006, the Florida Case was transferred to the Northern District, assigned Case No. 06-01026 (the "Case"), and shortly thereafter the Trustee became the duly appointed, qualified, and acting bankruptcy trustee for the Estate.
- 4. Shortly after her appointment, the Trustee selected Shaw Gussis as her legal counsel in the Case.
- 5. On March 3, 2006, the Trustee filed her Application to employ Shaw Gussis as her counsel (the "Retention Application"), effective as of February 28, 2006. On or about March 10, 2006, the Court conducted a hearing on the Retention Application and entered an order (the "Retention Order") authorizing the Trustee to retain Shaw Gussis as her counsel in the Case, effective as of February 28, 2006. [Dkt. No. 61]
- 6. The Retention Order further authorized the Trustee to pay Shaw Gussis a retainer (the "Retainer") of \$30,000 and provided for Shaw Gussis' prospective application for interim compensation and expense reimbursement as funds became available, but not more frequently that once every 120 days upon appropriate application, notice and a hearing. The \$30,000 retainer has been returned to the Trustee.
- 7. On February 14, 2007, the Court awarded Shaw Gussis \$124,283.41 (the "First Interim Award") from available Estate funds for compensation and reimbursement of expenses incurred as special counsel to the Trustee under Shaw Gussis' first interim application for the period of February 28, 2006 through December 31, 2006. On February 16, 2007 Shaw Gussis received \$124,283.41 in payment from the Estate.

- 8. On August 8, 2007 the Court awarded Shaw Gussis \$34,377.69 (the "Second Interim Award") from available Estate funds for compensation and reimbursement of expenses incurred as special counsel to the Trustee under Shaw Gussis' Second Interim Application for the period of January 1, 2007 through May 31, 2007. On August 22, 2007, Shaw Gussis received \$34,377.69 in payment from the Estate.
- 9. This Court has jurisdiction over the Case pursuant to Sections 157(b)(2)(A) and (O) and 1334 of title 28, United States Code. This is a core proceeding pursuant to Section 157(b)(2)(A) of title 28, United States Code. Venue is proper pursuant to Sections 1408 and 1409 of title 28, United States Code.

SERVICES RENDERED BY SHAW GUSSIS DURING APPLICATION PERIOD

- 10. In the aggregate, during the Application Period, Shaw Gussis' attorneys have spent in excess of 63 hours providing professional services on behalf of the Trustee in connection with the Case from June 1, 2007 through January 15, 2010. All of the Services for which compensation is requested were Services which, in Shaw Gussis' billing judgment, were necessarily rendered after due consideration of the expected cost and anticipated benefit of such Services.
- 11. In an effort to provide the Court and parties in interest with understandable information concerning the amount and nature of Shaw Gussis' Services during the Application Period, and in compliance with Local Rule 5082-1, Shaw Gussis has classified its Services into six (6) separate categories which are included as separate appendices to this Application. The following are the generalized subject matters for each appendix:

Appendix 1: Adversary Proceedings: (Fees: \$1,624.50/Hours: 4)

Services pertaining to the preparation of stipulations to dismiss pending adversary proceedings and motions to approve the same.

Appendix 2: Case Administration: (Fees: \$3,669.50/Hours: 10.2)

Services pertaining to the retention of an accountant for the estate and providing relevant information to the Trustee and the accountant for preparation of estate tax returns and the Trustee's final report.

Appendix 3: Creditors and Claims: (Fees: \$9,826.50/Hours: 23.4)

Services pertaining to review and analysis of filed proofs of claim and the Trustee's settlement with the EPA and Dorothy Pielet.

Appendix 4: Fee Applications: (Fees: \$5,656.00/Hours: 20)

Services pertaining to the preparation and presentation of the Shaw Gussis fee applications.

Appendix 5: General Investigation: (Fees: \$1,852.50/Hours:5.4)

Services pertaining to reviewing relevant documentations to determine whether additional assets exist.

Appendix 6: State Court Litigation: (Fees: \$135.00/Hours: .3)

Services pertaining to motion to dismiss James Pielet/Robert Pielet Cook County case.

- 12. Included in the total fees requested herein, are fees of \$2,500.00 that have been or are anticipated to be incurred following the Application Period. These estimated fees are included in the summaries above and contemplate Shaw Gussis hourly fees related to the preparation, filing, serving and presentment of this Final Application and assisting the Trustee in closing the estate.
- 13. The Services have required a total of 63 hours on the part of Shaw Gussis, all as more fully set forth in <u>Appendices 1 6</u> attached to and made a part of this Final Application. The Appendices provide a detailed description of the Shaw Gussis professional who performed work, the amount of time spent, and the total compensation sought for each separate task and activity. As a result of the legal Services rendered by Shaw Gussis in assisting the Trustee in the

administration of the case since its inception, in excess of \$1.5 million has been brought into the Estate. At all times, Services have been provided at the direction of the Trustee to facilitate her goal of prompt and efficient administration.

14. In accordance with Local Rule 5082-1(B)(1), the Total Compensation sought for each professional with respect to the aforementioned categories is as follows:

<u>Member</u> Ira Bodenstein	<u>Rate</u> \$450.00/465.00	<u>Total Hours</u> 38.3	<u>Total</u> \$16,653.00
<u>Associates</u>	<u>Rate</u>	Total Hours	<u>Total</u>
Gordon E. Gouveia	\$255.00/275.00	11.2	\$2,954.50
Marylynne Schwartz	\$235.00	10.4	\$2,490.00
Vipin Gandra	\$230.00	1.3	\$299.00
<u>Paralegal</u>	Rate	Total Hours	Total
Patricia Fredericks	\$175.00	2.1	\$367.50

- 15. Based upon the customary and reasonable rates charged by Shaw Gussis for services in cases under the Bankruptcy Code and for services other than services rendered in cases under the Bankruptcy Code, the fair and reasonable value of the Services is not less than \$25,264.00, including certain voluntary reductions (the "Voluntary Reductions") in fees totaling \$1,060.50. Shaw Gussis seeks compensation of \$25,264.00 through this request (the "Final Compensation Request").
- 16. The Trustee has reviewed the Final Application and supports approval of the Final Compensation Request. Shaw Gussis submits that the Final Compensation Request is reasonable and requests the entry of an order authorizing compensation for the Services as set forth herein.

¹ The Voluntary Reductions, which constitute approximately 2.4 hours and 4.0 percent of the value of the Services, are reflected in the time detail attached hereto in the Appendices as "No Charge" under the heading of "Bill Status" under certain of the detailed task descriptions. The Voluntary Reductions were made by Shaw Gussis in the exercise of billing judgment to avoid potential duplication of tasks, to ensure that a reasonable amount of time was spent performing the Services, and to maximize the benefit of such Services to the Estate.

17. In addition to rendering the Services as set forth above, Shaw Gussis incurred Expenses in the aggregate sum of \$511.57 (the "Final Expense Reimbursement Request"), all of which Expenses are detailed in <u>Appendix 7</u> attached hereto and made part hereof. The Expenses consist of photocopying (in-house), overnight delivery and messenger services, postage, court fees, transportation costs, and online research expense. The specific expenses for which reimbursement is requested during the Application Period are as follows:

Internal Photocopy	\$150.00
Overnight/Messenger Delivery	\$47.26
Postage	\$113.82
Court Fees	\$149.65
Transportation	\$21.00
PACER Fees	\$29.84
TOTAL	\$511.57

- 18. The Trustee has reviewed the Final Application and supports approval of the Final Expense Reimbursement Request. All of the Expenses were reasonable in amount and were properly made, and Shaw Gussis respectfully requests that an order be entered authorizing reimbursement of the Expenses.
- 19. As additional overview for the Court, Shaw Gussis provides the following information with respect to the methods it uses to record and charge various types of expenses, as follows:
- A. <u>Photocopying</u>. Photocopying charges are recorded on a computer key pad attached to the photocopying machine. The person wishing to make copies enters the client number to which the job should be charged. A printout of the charges, by client number, is extracted from the photocopying machine at least once a month. Thereafter, the data is entered into the Shaw Gussis billing system by client number. Certain larger copying jobs are sent to an outside copying service. Shaw Gussis seeks reimbursement for internal photocopying charges at

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the rate of \$.10 per page, and Shaw Gussis seeks reimbursement for the actual out-of-pocket charges incurred by it for outside photocopying services.

- B. Overnight Delivery and Messenger. Overnight deliveries and messenger deliveries are arranged directly with the service provider. Shaw Gussis generally uses Federal Express for overnight delivery and utilizes the software program provided by Federal Express to generate the bills of lading, which bills include the client number for each such delivery. Federal Express transmits a monthly invoice to Shaw Gussis for all delivery services, each entry of which is identified by the Shaw Gussis client number. This data is entered into the Shaw Gussis billing system by client number. Messenger delivery is arranged on a case-by-case basis. Each delivery is given a delivery ticket with a client number. Shaw Gussis is billed monthly for these charges, and the charges are entered into the Shaw Gussis billing system by client number. Shaw Gussis seeks reimbursement only for the actual out-of-pocket charges incurred by it for overnight delivery and messenger service.
- C. <u>Postage</u>. Shaw Gussis seeks reimbursement only for the actual out-of-pocket charges incurred by it for postage. Postage charges are recorded on a manual log at the time a mailing is done. The amount recorded reflects the total from the postage meter.
- D. <u>Transportation.</u> Shaw Gussis bills all if its clients for direct expenses incurred in connection with client required travel. With respect to ground travel, Shaw Gussis bills for direct expenses incurred for taxi or private car service.
- E. <u>PACER Fees</u>. Shaw Gussis uses PACER to monitor docket activity and obtain documents filed with the Court without the necessity of a trip to the courthouse. Shaw Gussis makes no profit on PACER fees.

COMPLIANCE WITH 11 U.S.C. § 504

20. Other than as provided for and allowed by 11 U.S.C. § 504, there is no agreement between Shaw Gussis and any other firm, person or entity for the sharing or division of any compensation paid or payable to Shaw Gussis.

NOTICE

21. Pursuant to Fed. R. Bankr. P. 2002, twenty one (21) days' notice of this Second Interim Application has been provided through service on the U.S. Trustee, the Debtor, all creditors, and parties that have requested notice in the Case.

WHEREFORE, Shaw Gussis requests the entry of an order, substantially in the form attached hereto, that:

- (a) Allows Shaw Gussis \$25,264.00 in compensation for Services provided during the Application Period;
- (b) Allows Shaw Gussis \$511.57 in expense reimbursement for the Application Period;
- (c) Authorizes and directs the Trustee to forthwith pay to Shaw Gussis the Final Award in the amount of \$25,775.57;
- (d) Allows, as final, the First Interim Award and the Second Interim Award as actual and necessary professional services rendered and expenses incurred from February 28, 2006 through May 31, 2007; and

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(e) Provides Shaw Gussis with such additional relief as may be appropriate and just under the circumstances.

Respectfully submitted,

Shaw Gussis Fishman Glantz Wolfson & Towbin LLC

Dated: February 8, 2010 By: /s/ Ira Bodenstein

Ira Bodenstein (#3126857) Gordon E. Gouveia (#6282986) Marylynne Schwartz (#6297576) Shaw Gussis Fishman Glantz Wolfson & Towbin LLC 321 North Clark Street, Suite 800 Chicago, IL 60654

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